

Beyond Expectations

Last month, Retired Master Chief Navy Counselor and Vietnam Veteran Robert Tinsley came to the Butler VA Health Care System for the first time, and his experience was “beyond his expectations.”

For Robert, both the modern VA facility itself and the caring Butler VA staff he encountered, made his first visit impressive.

“I always thought the staff were civilians working for Uncle Sam because of the benefits and really didn’t give a damn about the Veterans they serve. That was proven totally wrong. I felt relaxed and confident that I was in the right facility. Their knowledge, care, and professionalism was very obvious right away.”

Enroll at the Butler VA Today

Robert’s advice to other Veterans is this: “Get to your nearest VA facility as soon as possible, get registered, and schedule appointments, whether for health care or service-connected benefits. Take your DD-214 and don’t be afraid to give them your social security number. They really are there to help with things you never would have considered.”

Veterans not currently enrolled in the Butler VA Health Care System are encouraged to call the Enrollment Team at 878-271-6645 to get started today.

Reach Out – Help is Available

While September 2021 was his first visit to the Butler VA, Robert did have one prior experience with the VA back in 2010 when he tried to take his own life. He called the VA

center in DuBois following the incident and a staff member there worked with him several times to help him understand his condition.

“She saved my life. The VA saved my life. Thank You.”

If you’re a Veteran who is thinking of hurting yourself—or you know a Veteran who’s considering this—the Butler VA can help. Our suicide prevention team can get you the support you need. They work with our behavioral health providers and community organizations to assist Veterans who are managing emotional or mental health crises. Reach out and connect: www.va.gov/butler-health-care/health-services/suicide-prevention/.

The Veterans Crisis Line is also available. It’s a free, confidential resource that connects Veterans or their loved ones to a real person specially trained to support Veterans. Call 1-800-273-8255 and press 1, text to 838255, or chat online at VeteransCrisisLine.net/chat, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. *Veterans do not have to be enrolled in VA health care or registered with VA to use the Veterans Crisis Line.*



October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM)

This year, VA’s Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program (IPVAP) DVAM theme is, “Honor Relationship Wellness,” which highlights the importance of healthy relationships to overall wellbeing and promotes healing and growth for those impacted by intimate partner violence (IPV). **Contact Butler VA’s IPVAP Coordinator at 878-271-6124.**



Free Flu Shots

All who served in the U.S. Military are eligible for a free flu shot through the Butler VA. Veterans not currently enrolled in the Butler VA Health Care System should use the occasion of a flu shot to enroll into the Butler VA!

Enroll today! www.choose.va.gov.



OCTOBER FLU CLINICS

Vaccination is the surest way to protect against getting the flu. Get your flu shot every year to protect yourself and help keep the flu from spreading to others. www.publichealth.va.gov/flu/vaccination.

All Veterans are eligible to receive a free flu shot from the Butler VA Health Care System.

Please note, for flu shots at the Butler VA, they will be given at the New Castle Road campus, located at 325 New Castle Road, Butler. Flu shots will be administered in the parking lot at a designated "drive-thru" point. Signs will be posted to direct traffic. Veterans should remain in their vehicle.

- **Friday, October 1—12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**
Clarion County VA Outpatient Clinic
- **Saturday, October 2—10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**
American Legion Post 66; 530 Main St., Clarion, PA 16214
- **Saturday, October 2—9 a.m. – 2 p.m.**
Michael A. Marzano VA Outpatient Clinic
- **Tuesday, October 5—9 a.m. – 3 p.m.**
Butler VA, New Castle Road Campus
- **Thursday, October 7—10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**
American Legion Post 343; 134 N. Jefferson St., New Castle, PA 16101
- **Thursday, October 7—12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**
Cranberry Township VA Outpatient Clinic
- **Friday, October 8—12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**
Clarion County VA Outpatient Clinic
- **Thursday, October 14—9 a.m. – 3 p.m.**
Butler VA, New Castle Road Campus
- **Thursday, October 14—12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**
Cranberry Township VA Outpatient Clinic
- **Friday, October 15—12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**
Armstrong County VA Outpatient Clinic
- **Thursday, October 21—12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**
Cranberry Township VA Outpatient Clinic
- **Friday, October 22—12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**
Armstrong County VA Outpatient Clinic
- **Saturday, October 23—9 a.m. – 2 p.m.**
Lawrence County VA Outpatient Clinic
- **Tuesday, October 26—1 p.m. – 8 p.m.**
Michael A. Marzano VA Outpatient Clinic

For more information or if you have questions about the upcoming flu clinics, please call 878-271-6672.



NEW ROCKS GARDEN AT THE BUTLER VA

Veterans, employees, and visitors will see a little color added to the entrance of our Abie Abraham VA Health Care Center with the addition of a Kindness Rocks Garden and a Remembrance Rocks Garden.

Interested in adding a rock? Call the Health Promotion & Disease Prevention Program Manager at 878-271-6484 for supplies.

Concerned about your breast cancer risk?
VA offers state-of-the-art breast care.

BREAST CANCER SCREENING

CANCER TREATMENT

GENETIC COUNSELING & TESTING

CARE COORDINATION

Talk to your Women's Health provider today.

OCTOBER IS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Contact your VA Women's Health Primary Care Provider team if you have questions or concerns about your breast cancer risk and to determine if a mammogram is right for you.

SALUTE YOU

Thank you for your service
ROBERT C. TINSLEY, U.S. Navy



Retired Master Chief Navy Counselor | May 1966 - April 1996

- Deployed to Vietnam (1968-69) Aboard Carrier USS Constellation (CVA-64)
- Naval Air Facilities Saigon/Danang Republic of South Vietnam ('68)
- Midway Island Naval Air Station (1969-70)
- Caribbean Sea (1972) Aboard Carrier USS Wasp (CVS-18) with VS-72.
- Mediterranean Sea (1973) Aboard Carrier USS John F. Kennedy (CVA-67)
- North Atlantic, Arctic Circle, Israeli/ Egyptian War (1973) Aboard Carrier USS John F. Kennedy (CVA-67)

After serving over 30 years, with multiple deployments (listed above), U.S. Navy Veteran Robert Tinsley also served as a Naval Junior Reserve Officer Instructor, (NJROTC) in Ohio for seven years.

Let us "Salute You!" Contact the Butler VA Public Affairs Office for more information.



VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Butler VA Health Care System

800.362.8262
724.287.4781

www.va.gov/butler-health-care



www.va.gov/butler-health-care



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A Legacy of Service. The Future of Care.